The SNAKE *in the* GRASS *brought to Light:*

OR, THE

TORIES

OR

High-Church Party

Prov'd to be the

Only DISSENTERS from the pure Doctrine of the Church of *England.*

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FROM THE

Church of *England.*

IT has been truly obſerv'd in the Revolutions of the World, that thoſe Perſons who have been really the moſt profeſs'd Enemies to all Religion themſelves, have been for ſupplanting its True Profeſſors, and

and for hindring its farther Growth and Entertainment with other Men; and this is little to be wonder'd at, that they who are only guided by the Principles of Popery, ſhould puſh forward Irreligion, and endeavour to undermine all Oppoſers of it: But for Men who pretend to the Height and Purity of Religion, at the ſame Time to ſtrike the greateſt Blow againſt it, by their Practiſes, is ſuch a rank Piece of Hypocriſy, as never any but this Age could pretend to parallel.

Indeed 'tis too too common with the Pope and his cunning Emiſſaries, to conſult the Intereſt of the Triple Diadem above the Crowns, and make the Laws of Religion no farther uſeful and obliging than they are ſubſervient to the Deſigns and Policies of his State-Engineers; 'tis no News to hear him quarrelling with the greateſt Emperors and Princes, and thundering out his ſevereſt Bulls and Anathemas againſt them, if they will not tamely ſubmit to his Uſurpations

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and Encroachments: To depoſe Kings, and abſolve Subjects from their Allegiance, to promote Sedition, and cauſe Inſurrections, to ſet Kingdoms in Flames and draw People into Arms; this is a meritorious Piece of Service amongſt *Jeſuites*. But then for True Proteſtants (as they pretend to be) to quarrel with their Brother Proteſtants, and write after this Copy of the Pope, and in the ſame Character of Blood, affright People out of their Senſes, with the hideous Noiſe and Amuſement of Presbyterian Maſſacres and Conflagrations, and yet at the ſame Time ferment the Nation privately into Rebellion; and by preaching up and continuing to preach ſuch Doctrines as wou'd have ſet us together by the Ears at Home, at that Time, when a War was depending between Us and Potent Enemies Abroad; and had not the good Providence of Almighty God interpos'd on Our Behalf, All the Proteſtants in this and the Neighbouring Kingdoms had been intirely ruin'd. And by ſcattering ſuch Vil-

Villanous Papers about the Streets on the 28th of *September* laſt, encouraging the People of *Great-Britain* and Army to Rebel again a Second Time: I ſay to make a mighty Splutter and huge Outcry againſt Presbytery, and yet at the ſame Time to take Popiſh Meaſures of Ruin and Deſtruction, by cutting off the Whole Royal Family, and eſtabliſhing a Popiſh bigotted *Pretender* to fill the Throne; this is a New Way for pretended Church of *England* Men to propagate Religion, which was never before known in the World, 'till theſe *Red-Letter Saints* of the *Laſt Edition*, chalk'd out the ready Way for it; and prov'd by ſuch Practiſes as theſe, That their only Means to become the beſt Chriſtians, was firſt to commence the moſt flagitious and bloody Villains.

How many Diſturbances has this Nation had upon Account of Religion by theſe High Meaſures, ſeveral Hiſtories will inform you, but none ſo unnatural as that of late caus'd by the Inferior

ferior Clergy in their Reflections and Lies, upon the Reverend Biſhops of the Church of *England*, by Law eſtabliſh'd, particularly the Worthy Biſhop of *Bangor*, for his Excellent Sermon preach'd before His Moſt Gracious Majeſty King *George*, on *Sunday* the 31 of *March* laſt, and printed by His Majeſty's Special Command. Theſe Men glory in their being Members of the *High-Church*, a Popiſh Appellation; (and therefore they are the more fond of that;) but theſe pretended Sons are become her Perſecutors, and theſe Watchmen who ſhou'd have ſecur'd her by their Vigilancy have prov'd her Adverſaries; they have fallen upon her, and wounded her by their pernicious Doctrines; greater Cruelty ſhe met not with in thoſe bloody *Marian* Times, by Enemies in theſe Days of pretended Reformation, and they exerciſe their Spight and Lies both on the Living and the Dead. * But for good and virtuous Men to be expos'd to the Ma-

* K. William, *Biſhop* Burnett, *the late Lord Archbiſhop of* Canterbury.

lice of thoſe that are wicked, has often been an hard Fate that hath attended them in the World : 'Tis no new Thing for Religion to meet with Oppoſition from ſuch Perſons, whoſe Paſſions and Intereſts are inconſiſtent with it ; Chriſtian Religion we know is the moſt rational and excellent Inſtitution that can be imagined, it lays a great Reſtraint upon the Paſſions, and bridles all irregular and diſorderly Affections, it limits Mens unbounded and extravagant Deſires, and puts them off from all baſe and unworthy Projects and Purſuits, it teacheth them to be juſt and honeſt, ſimple and open, candid and upright in all their Actions, not to vilify or ſpeak evil of their Superiors, and would have them to be as innocent as Doves, tho' it allows them likewiſe the Wiſdom of Serpents; and where theſe are not the viſible Effects of its Holy Doctrine and Precepts, it meets with a ſtrange Reception and Entertainment in the World. For where Men once give up themſelves to the Conduct of their

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Paſſions, and indulge themſelves entirely in all the common Prejudices of Humanity; where they ſacrifice to their Intereſt as the Greateſt of all Deities, and meaſure all Religion by complying with ſuch a Party, or adhering to ſuch a Faction, or eſpouſing ſuch an Intereſt; if Religion do in ſuch Caſes exert its Vigour and Zeal, to beat down ſuch palpable Irregularities amongſt ſuch People, it ſhall be ſure to be cenſur'd and dealt withal as an Enemy, becauſe it is reſolved ſo fairly to tell them the Truth.

And hence ariſe evil Thoughts and falſe Surmiſes, and wrangling Debates, and perverſe Diſputings by Men of corrupt Minds, who turn Faith into Faction, and Religion into Rebellion, and all Government muſt be aboliſhed that is not of their Mold, and all Humane Appointments abrogated that are not ſtamp'd with their Mark; and if Governments will not be huff'd out of their Authority by their Demands, then all their Actions muſt be immediately

misrepresented to the Crowd, and the People must be forthwith harangu'd into Mutiny and Sedition, by these vile Men that have been always for Dividing the Protestant Interest, tho' they say *G—d D——n 'em, They Love the Church.*

That these have been the Proceedings for some Years in this Kingdom, I think none so great a Recluse to be ignorant of at this Day; for who ever has been more persecuted by seditious *Boutefeus*, than our present most Gracious Deliverer, King *George?* Was not our Sovereign's coming to relieve us, very timely, wonderful and miraculous? And has not God attested his Care and Protection over him, by such Series of Deliverances as might convince his Enemies? One would think, that he is above the Reach of their Malice, and is the very Darling and Favourite of Heaven it self, and yet for all this, have they not taken all Advantages to stuff the Pillow of his Crown with Thorns, and to make the Throne totter, and become uneasy to His Majesty? Did not Dr. *Sach——l* de-

declare he cou'd forgive all King *William* did, but the *Damn'd Legacy*, (as his Expreſſion was) which can be proved by ſeveral? And he and his Party have defam'd the Royal Family, and have carry'd the Scandal thro' a great many Families in *England*. And when ſuch evil and dangerous Principles are ſuck'd in by Men of corrupt Minds, they muſt needs prove very pernicious, in order to the Undermining the Peace and Proſperity of that State, where they are entertain'd; becauſe they are the very Bane of all Obedience and Loyalty, and transform Men into ſuch horrid Monſters of Anarchy and Rebellion, as are unfit to live in any Chriſtian Community, being like the Plague that poiſons all Places with their infectious Contagion, as we have felt by too woeful Experience in theſe Three flouriſhing Kingdoms. Nothing doth more occaſion miſchievous Plots and Conſpiracies, than needleſs Fears and Jealouſies about Religion, and the Danger of the Church by Presbytery, as ſome have been told;

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but a not Word of Popery, for tell but the People, the King is ſetting up for Tyranny and Arbitrary Government, and it preſently ſets the fooliſh People a madding, ſo that 'twill be very hard to reconcile them, and this has been the Practice of this bold Incendiary of late Years, and ſeveral of his Brethren. But this is all falſe, (like themſelves) and his Good and Gracious Majeſty's Reign, has hitherto been the contrary; a Reign where Law and Juſtice were never ſtretch'd, unleſs to Mercy and Indulgence, where too eaſy Forgiveneſs and receiving his pardoned Enemies, has been truly his Temper, and what he moſt delights in.

Let not then any fooliſh Fears or Jealouſies, that ee'r or have been conjured up, affright us out of our Loyalty and Obedience to the Royal Family, for Thoſe are only the *State-Tools* of *Hotſpur'd Bigots* and *Incendiaries*, and are always uſed as Boys do Vizors, to fright every Body but themſelves that wear them: And

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tho' there is not the leaſt Shadow or Appearance for any ſuch Surmiſes, and all is rank Forgery which they ſcatter amongſt the Multitude, yet becauſe they know the Temper of moſt *Engliſh* Men, and they fear nothing which they ſee but all Things that they hear, which if unpleaſing, do preſently ſet them a Kicking and Madding againſt the Government; they gratify their fooliſh Humours in this Affair, and after they have muſter'd up a whole Legion of Publick Grievances in the Nation, they magnify theſe very Annuſances with ſuch Artifices of Faction, that the People are induced to believe theſe imaginary Caſtles and Scare-Crows to be real and ſubſtantial Truths, and ſo run into Confuſion and an Oppoſition of that Government, which were it not for theſe Men, and ſome *Tory* Juſtices, that are continued in the Commiſſion of the Peace, they would quietly acquieſce in, and think it the greateſt Happineſs to live quietly under, with all Obedience and Submiſſion. But another Thing which makes Men aſſo-

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ciate in Leagues, and Plots, and Conſpiracies, is an Uneaſineſs under Government, and an itching Deſire after new Changes and Alterations: And tho' after all the mighty Heats and Debates amongſt the Politicians, Monarchies have at laſt been voted for the beſt of Governments, and One Tyrant (if ſo it happen) than Thirty at *Athens*; yet ſo beſotted are ſome *Bigots* to *Tory* Principles and Practices, that a *Solomon* upon the Throne, ſhall be made impeaceable at their Tribunal; and they who perhaps, *Alphonſus* like, could have contriv'd the World better had they been admitted Privy-Counſellors with God Almighty in the Creation, no doubt are ſo Opinionative, as throughly to be perſuaded that they can Govern the World better too, than God's Vicegerents who are at the Helm, might their Meaſures be taken in the Adminiſtration of Government. But what are the Meaſures which theſe Men of Policy propoſe? Why, if the Prerogative was but a little more poized to their Genius and

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Church-Government, new modell'd to the Popiſh Cut, you ſhould perhaps have theſe Mens Wits leave off working for a while, till the next Moon cauſed a New Fermentation in the Brain; and when their Lunacy did return, new Projects muſt be ſet on Foot, and down goes the Church of *England*, as too ſevere and tyrannical, and a *Jus Divinum* muſt be enſtamp'd with a *Nemine Contradicente* upon Presbytery; till at length the Moon changeth again, and then it being thought too much to monopolize true Chriſtianity to any One particular Sect of Men, they admit of all clean and unclean Creatures within the Pale of the Church, till our Hereſies grow as Numerous as the very Letters of our Creeds, and the Church itſelf becomes really (what *Julian* once falſely traduced it to be) a Sanctuary for all the greateſt Villanies and moſt horrid Diabolical Illuſions in the World. And theſe are the true Fruits and Miſchiefs of unneceſſary Changes in Government; which ſhould make us utterly deteſt all Abet-

tors of them, and to dread the very Thoughts of any farther Reformation, until they could all agree upon a better than is eſtabliſh'd: For 'tis the Duty of Reformers to provide themſelves of a ſure Remedy, before they take Notice of the Wound; and that Chyrurgeon deſerves to be puniſhed, who firſt opens the ſick Man's Vein, and then runs for Things to cloſe it. And they that would bleed the Kingdom, and would heal the Diſtempers of the Nation, without having better Remedies at Hand, which are more neceſſary and expedient than at preſent are applied, is ſuch an impracticable Way to cure it, as none but bloody *Empiricks* would pretend to, and are therefore to be puniſhed as ſuch unskillful Miſcreants, whoſe proper Work is not to cure, but to ruin that Kingdom they live in.

And now having ſhewn you the Men that can preach up *Paſſive Obedience* and *Non-reſiſtance* in One Reign, and can cry it down in Another, whoſe Nature can

can Rebel againſt Principle upon Occaſion, and how far the Malice of theſe wicked Men prompt themſelves, and others forward to commit the greateſt Outrages by their curſed Plots and Conſpiracies, and what is the Source of all deviliſh Machinations, and that nothing is more deteſtable in the Sight of God, than ſuch evil Projects and treacherous Deſignments againſt Governors; for All Obedience to Man, is for the ſake of God, and they who by any contumelious Act vilify their Superiors, reproach God himſelf, who gave them their Authority: If by God Kings Reign, and Princes do decree Juſtice, to wound their Perſons is to ſtab God in Effigy, nor can their Honour be eclips'd without leſſening God's too: He that quarrels with his Prince, quarrels with God, who hath beſtow'd upon him all his Regalia of kingly Power, and he that endeavours to undermine or betray his Sovereign out of any ſelfiſh Principle, or ſecular Intereſt and Deſign, was our Bleſſed Saviour now upon Earth,

would *Judas* like venture his Soul to betray him too, was he but ſure to come to a good Market for him. Every Hot-brain'd *Tory*, that thinks himſelf fit to adviſe Authority, is duly to be admoniſhed, that he would ceaſe to take upon him the Government of the World, as if he knew how to diſpoſe of it to a better Lieutenancy than the Almighty; and conſequently that theſe Men would once be perſuaded to leave all their mutinous and ſeditious Practiſes, their Railery, and foul Detraction, their Plots and Aſſociations againſt Kings and all that are in Authority, becauſe God looks upon it as a Contempt and a Defiance given to himſelf; and therefore doth aſſure them, that as Rebellion is as the Sin of Witch-craft, ſo they that reſiſt a lawful Government, ſhall receive to themſelves Damnation. Nothing is more inconſiſtent with the Deſign of true Religion and the Doctrine of Chriſtianity, than ſuch vile Plots and Conſpiracies, which make Reſiſtance againſt Superiors, a Thing lawful; and conſequently that

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can be no true Church where ſuch Practiſes are allow'd of, or countenanc'd by the chiefeſt Members. Read over (if you can think it worth your while) ſome of the Sermons of Dr. *Att——ry*, now a Biſhop; *Trap*, *Milbourn*, Dr. *Sacheverell*; eſpecially the latter, in that preach'd at *Derby*, and at St. *Pauls*, how he ſounds a Trumpet to Rebellion, and the miſchievous Effect that and others has had in dividing ſeveral Families in *England*, and the Circuits he has taken to confirm the ſame amongſt them, and to poiſon the Affections of People to Loyalty; all which have been the curſed Fountains of all our late deplorable Calamities; and the Streams of a Neighbouring Univerſity have run ſo foul, and corrupted our Youth to Popery, that our Gracious Sovereign was forc'd to be at the Expence of Part of an Army to cohabit there for ſome Time, to quiet thoſe graceleſs Babes; and indeed all theſe wicked Principles have lately flowed from the ſame Sink of Popery and *Toriſm*, as is no where elſe to be met with but in Hell it ſelf. Now all theſe Things be-

before-mention'd, were not done privately in a Corner, or ſhrouded up cloſely in the Shades of Darkneſs, but were publiſh'd boldly and openly in the Face of the Sun, as Doctrines fit to be propagated and eſpouſed by all true Chriſtians; nor were theſe the particular Sentiments only of ſome of our Divines of the Church of *England*, but the Opinions of moſt of the Principals and Inferiors, and we find them Men of the ſame Kidneys ſtill, (as lately have been ſeen by ſeveral of the Inferior Clergy, in their Sermons preach'd againſt the Reverend Biſhop of *Bangor* in ſeveral Places, and particularly near His Majeſty's Court, at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, for Three *Sundays* together railing againſt the ſaid Biſhop, that he had open'd a Flood-Gate upon the Church of *England*, for all Atheiſts, Deiſts, Presbyterians and other Sectaries to enter and undermine;) for they have not yet retracted any of their *Tory* Principles, nor recanted for their dangerous Opinions and Tenets, nor given the Govern-

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ment any reaſonable Satisfaction to believe that they are ſorry for what they have done, nor declared any viſible Reluctancy or Regret for all their former Miſdemeanors, (Repentance in a *Tory*, being as great a Miracle as Converſion in a *Jew*.)

Now 'tis impoſſible that Men who are poiſon'd with ſuch Unchriſtian Sentiments as theſe, can ever be Members of a Church truly Chriſtian; for Chriſtianity truly Primitive, never own'd any ſuch Principles or Perſons in the World, but lays down other Maxims of another Stamp and Nature; it commands us Love and Peace, doing good to each other, (nay to Enemies) Unity and Obedience, and abhors all Hatred, Malice and Uncharitableneſs, it obligeth us to be ſubject to the Higher Powers, and to obey for Conſcience ſake, and to ſubmit ourſelves to froward and cruel as well as to mild and gentle Governors; ſo that till Men learn to be more peaceable

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and quiet, more ſubmiſſive and obedient, leſs mutinous and refractory, leſs cenſorious and ſeditious, let them liſt themſelves in what Aſſemblies, and pretend to what Meaſures of Holineſs they pleaſe, I dare aſſure them (if the Goſpel be true) that they are not yet enroll'd in the Catalogue of God's true Saints.

For Clergymen to ſlander their Fathers the Biſhops of the Church of *England*, (a late Inſtance happen'd at the Baptizing an Infant in *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, where the good Biſhop of *Bangor* happen'd to be mention'd, a violent *Tory* Divine made anſwer, he was a falſe Biſhop, and this will be prov'd by ſeveral then preſent.

Rebellion and Diſobedience are much the worſt Sins, becauſe they are *Luciferian* Crimes, Sins which can never attend Men to Heaven, having brought down the Angels of Heaven to Hell. There are ſome ſort of Sins, ſuch as Drunkenneſs and Whoredom, (however damning) that the Devil cannot poſſibly

bly commit; but Envy and Malice, Sacrilege, Hypocriſy and Rebellion, and intoxicating Pride are peculiar to him; and they are the Devil's Sins ſo properly, that they are properly called Deviliſh in Men or Chriſtians where-ever found: And as theſe of all Sins are the moſt diabolical, ſo they are the moſt damning, which is very evident from the terrible Emphaſis and Force St. *Peter* puts upon the Word, 2 *Pet.* 2. 9. Saying of them, who deſpiſe Government, that they are chiefly or more eſpecially reſerv'd by the Lord, unto the Day of Judgment, to be puniſh'd. Let none then who know themſelves guilty of theſe damning Sins, value themſelves a ruſh the more, becauſe they can boaſt (as they think) of ſeveral Vertues, ſuch as Learning, Memory and other acquir'd Parts, and that they are no Drunkards, Adulterers or the like; for as Rebellion and Diſobedience are Sins of the higheſt Magnitude, which eraſes all the common notice of Duty and Loyalty, and even Humanity too, out of the Mind,

ſo it hurries a Man down to Hell ſeared and hardned in his Villany, where no doubt the preeminence of the hotteſt Place is reſerv'd for thoſe who die in that condition without Repentance.

And now I beg of you that read this, to take my Advice to adhere immoveably to that Church which remonſtrates againſt, and utterly abhors all Rebellious Principles and Practices: (I ſpeak this both to Clergy and Laity.) Now what Church that is, is conſpicuous to all the World by that indelible Mark of Loyalty which is her proper Badge and Honour: I mean that truly Primitive and Apoſtolical Church, the Church of *England* as now eſtabliſhed; which never yet beſtowed the King's Supremacy on the Pope, nor huffed him out of his Power to beſtow it upon the People: It by no means can allow an Entrenchment upon Prerogative, and it as much deſires that Property ſhould be ſecured by all honeſt and lawful Means: It ſues for Mercy of the Prince, but it would not have the

the Subjects abuse it to ill Purposes; and though it does allow them a Liberty in a regular way to do that which they judge to be best for themselves, yet it by no means gives them leave to tell their Prince what he must do, or to thrust themselves in as Spies upon, or Judges over his Actions: In fine, it enjoyns us to obey him in all things that are lawful and honest; and if he commands us otherwise, it permits us patiently to suffer for what we cannot by Law comply with.

This is the avowed Doctrine of our Church, (for which her Fame may be justly celebrated over all the Christian World) in which let us all with one Consent resolve to live and die; for where can we hope to be taught better, or in what Communion can we hope to gain Heaven sooner than in this, whose Principles are so sound, whose Doctrine is so pure, whose Rites and Ceremonies are so few and decent, and whose Practices are all so agreeable to the first and pu-

reſt Ages of Chriſtianity; which if once ſeriouſly conſidered would not only confirm us in this Faith, and make us firm to our Church, but perſwade others too to enter again into the Boſom of it, who have ſo perfidiouſly without any juſt grounds revolted from it.

For why ſhould they any longer ſuffer themſelves to be deluded, and why ſhould they not ſuſpect that there may poſſibly be ſome Corruptions in their Churches as well as any in ours? Return then, O you Tories and High-Churchmen, return; and if there be any Straglers now amongſt us, let me earneſtly beg of them to return to this our Fold, that we may all be of one Flock under one Shepherd Chriſt Jeſus: for 'tis now high time for Men to ſee their Errors. And if ſuch Treaſons and Conſpiracies as theſe I have mention'd, will not ſatisfy their Conſciences that thoſe who are the Leaders and Abettors of them are falſe Teachers, and Wolves in Sheeps-cloathing,

ing, Heaven it ſelf cannot work ſuch Mens Converſion.

You ſee how Excellent a Prince we have now upon the Throne, whom the Providence of God has ſent amongſt us like a good Angel, not to reſcue two or three Perſons, but to ſave a whole Nation from inevitable Ruin by Popery; which Vengeance was juſt ready to have been poured down upon us by the Perfidious Treachery of the late Miniſtry. May God of his Infinite Mercy bleſs and preſerve his moſt Gracious Majeſty King GEORGE, with long Life, and Happineſs, and together with him his Royal Highneſs GEORGE Prince of *Wales*, the Princeſs, their Iſſue, with the reſt of that Royal Family, and pray God to increaſe their Number and that God will magnify the King (as he did *Solomon*) exceedingly in the ſight of all his People, and beſtow upon him ſuch Royal Majeſty as has not been on any King before him; and may his Majeſty after the longeſt Poſ-

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ſeſſion of all Earthly Greatneſs, (with as little Uneaſineſs as ever any Crown for the Future brought along with it) at laſt ſee God, and Reign with Chriſt in Heavenly Serene Glory for ever and ever. Amen,

FINIS